UTAH COLLEGE TECH PREP STANDARDS

Utah's public education system is presently governed by the Utah State Board of Education and the Utah State Board of Regents. The Utah State Office of Education has oversight responsibilities for forty school districts, including 107 comprehensive high schools. The Utah State Board of Regents governs ten colleges and universities, including the Utah College of Applied Technology, with 10 regional applied technology colleges.

The fifty-seven entities (districts, ATCs, and colleges/universities) are spread throughout Utah's nine geographical regions and each region comprises a College Tech Prep Consortium.

Of the nine College Tech Prep Consortia, five are rural and four urban. Regional composition follows:

Rural Regional Consortia

Bear River	4 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 four-year university
Central	8 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 two-year college
Southeast	4 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 two-year college
Southwest	5 school districts; 2 ATCs; 1 four-year college; 1 four-year university
Uintah Basin	3 school districts; 1 ATC

Urban Regional Consortia

Ogden-Weber	2 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 four-year university
Davis-Morgan	2 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 four-year university
Wasatch Front	5 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 two-year college; 1 four-year university
Mountainland	7 school districts; 1 ATC; 1 four-year college

Each region will be notified of available College Tech Prep funds through a *Request for Proposal*. Although funds are allocated by formula rather than on a competitive basis, consortia are required to respond to RFP criteria at the beginning of regional College Tech Prep transition plans from Perkins II to Perkins III. The following definitions and requirements for College Tech Prep programs were developed through a statewide strategic planning process with regional College Tech Prep consortia representatives.

In November 1999, representatives from each regional consortia, the Utah State Office of Education, the Utah State Board of Regents, School-to-Careers and postsecondary institutions met to formulate new guidelines for College Tech Prep in Utah using the new Perkins III criteria. The outcome of the discussions produced definitions for what constitutes a College Tech Prep program at both the secondary and postsecondary levels and a definition of College Tech Prep students. These guidelines will establish more compliance with Perkins III requirements and greater consistency in programs statewide. Additionally, a template for College Tech Prep articulation agreements has been prepared and is currently being reviewed by the consortia for statewide use, and implementation goals have been identified. In January 2000, representatives from the consortia met again to review regional College Tech Prep plans against the statewide guidelines. This information will be used by each consortia to prepare four-year College Tech Prep plans.

The focus and main thrust of our College Tech Prep four-year state plan will be the implementation of these newly created guidelines and goals. Each regional consortia will be required to address how the following criteria and goals will be met in their local programs through the RFP.

1. <u>Program Requirements for Regional College Tech Prep Programs</u>

College Tech Prep Program Criteria - A College Tech Prep program means a program of study that:

1.   Combines a minimum of two years of secondary education with a minimum of two years of postsecondary education in a non-duplicative, sequential course of study.

       <u>Secondary coursework:</u> Coursework can be completed 9th-12th grade; Students must complete three applied technology education courses (concentrators).

       <u>Postsecondary coursework:</u> Students complete postsecondary coursework within two times the normal length of the program.

2.   Integrates academic, and vocational and technical instruction, and utilizes work-based and work-site learning where appropriate and available.

3.   Provides technical preparation in a career area such as engineering technology, applied science, mechanical, industrial, trade, agriculture, information technology, health occupations, marketing, business, or applied economics.

4.   Builds student competence in mathematics, science, reading, writing, communications, economics, and workplace skills through applied, contextual academics, and integrated instruction, in a coherent sequence of courses.

5.   Provides applied program courses based on high academic standards that reflect current industry standards and employer expectations.

6.   Leads to a postsecondary certificate in a specific career area or an associate or a baccalaureate degree.

7.   Leads to placement in appropriate employment or to further education.

8.   Has an articulation agreement in place for each program to ensure:

       ▪ a seamless transition from secondary to postsecondary education and training;
       ▪ students will be accepted into the postsecondary portion of the program according to application criteria;
       ▪ postsecondary institutions accept the transfer of articulated secondary level credits awarded to high school students; and
       ▪ dual and concurrent enrollment and other credit transfer options are well defined between secondary and postsecondary partners.

Definition of a College Tech Prep student - Secondary

At the secondary level, a College Tech Prep *enrolled* student is a student:

Whose SEOP reflects the student's career area and specific goals are identified that lead the student toward successful completion of the career goal and College Tech Prep program. A determination is made at least annually that the student is making progress toward the completion of the specified career goal - SEOP career area matches concentrator area.

AND

Who is enrolled in the secondary portion of an articulated College Tech Prep program.

A College Tech Prep *completer* is a College Tech Prep *enrolled* student:

Who completes three applied technology education courses within a program area (vocational concentrators) (Reported as a senior, coursework can be completed 9th-12th grade).

Definition of a College Tech Prep student - Postsecondary

At the postsecondary level, a College Tech Prep *enrolled* student is a student:

Who completes the secondary portion of an articulated College Tech Prep program and is enrolled in the postsecondary portion of an articulated College Tech Prep program.

AND

Has a declared major in a college, or is enrolled in preparatory program at an ATC.

A College Tech Prep *completer* is a College Tech Prep *enrolled* student:

Who completes postsecondary coursework within two times the normal length of the program.